

Message Text

SECRET

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50/16

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
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O 290615Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7271

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JAKARTA 3691

EXDIS

CORRECTED COPY (INCLUSION OF TEHRAN AS INFO ADDEE)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MILI ID VIS

SUBJ: INDONESIA AND ICCS

REF: JAKARTA 3530

1. HBZFENSE SECURITY CHIEF MAJGEN MURDANI, IN CAPACITY AS REPRESENTATIVE OF STATE INTELLIGENCE CHIEF LTGEN YOGA, ASKED EMBOFF MARCH 29 TO INFORM ME THAT INDONESIA SERIOUSLY CONTEMPLATING WITHDRAWAL FROM ICCS. ACCORDING MURDANI, IN HIGH LEVEL MEETING HELD MARCH 27, ATTENDED BY ICCS CHIEF GEN SUHUD WHO HAD RETURNED PREVIOUS DAY, IT ALL BUT DECIDED TO PULL OUT. AS MURDANI EXPLAINED IT, PULLOUT WOULD BE A TOTAL ONE, WITH NO TROOPS REMAINING EVEN IN SAIGON, ALTHOUGH STATEMENT WHICH INDONESIANS WOULD ISSUE WOULD "FINESSE ISSUE" OF THEIR PARTICIPATION.

2. MURDANI STATED THAT FINAL DECISION WOULD BE MADE AFTER GOI HAD CONSULTED WITH U, AND IN LIGHT OF OUR ESTIMATE OF GOI CAPABILITIES TO HOLD PRESENT DEFENSE LINE. MURDANI SAID FONDEPT WOULD BE IN TOUCH AND, ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY, I WAS ASKED BY FONDEPT TO CALL ON DIRGEN FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS DJAJADININGRAT MARCH 31 AT 1030 AM.

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3. COMMENT: IT APPEARS THAT GOI HAD MOVED CONSIDERABLY CLOSER TO DECISION TO PULL OUT THAN WHEN I TALKED WITH FONMIN MALIK MARCH 24 (REFTEL). I WILL BE MEETING WITH STATE SECRETARY LTGEN SUDHARMONO THIS AFTERNOON AND WILL STRONGLY URGE CONTINUED INDONESIAN PARTICIPATION IN ICCS AT LEAST AT HEADQUARTERS LEVEL. I FEAR THAT VOICES WITHIN GOI ARE CALLING FOR TOTAL WITHDRAWAL, AS OPPOSED TO PULL-BACK OF TROOPS FROM ENDANGERED SITES, AS MEASURE TO MAKE EASIER AN EVENTUAL ACCOMMODATION WITH PRG IF SUCH SHOULD BECOME NECESSARY. I SUGGEST DEPARTMENT AND SAIGON BEGIN PREPARING ASSESSMENT WHICH I CAN PROVIDE LATER IN WEEK IN RESPONSE TO ANTICIPATED DJAJADININGRAT REQUEST. IN ADDITION NORMAL ARGUMENTS FOR REMAINING IN ICCS, I WOULD ALSO PROPOSE SAY THAT WE WOULD MORE READILY UNDERSTAND INDONESIA, AS MEMBER ICCS, RAISING QUESTION GROUP'S FUTURE IN COMMUNICATIONS WITH SIGNATORIES PARIS AGREEMENT THAN WE WOULD UNILATERAL PULLOUT.
NEWSOM

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